

Brussels, 21 August 2014 140821/01

STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the murder of US journalist James Foley

"We strongly condemn the outrageous murder of the US journalist James Foley by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant.

We express our sincere condolences to the family of this distinguished journalist, to his friends and colleagues.

This brutal act, like the many other human rights violations which are perpetrated by the Islamic State, denies universally recognized values and rights, including the freedom of press for which Mr Foley had risked his life on several occasions. The EU will continue to promote the safety of journalists in the Middle-East and worldwide.

Such forms of terrorism constitute one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. The EU is more committed than ever to support international efforts to fight terrorism, to combat human rights violations and to restore the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and Syria.

The EU will use all means at its disposal to contribute to this endeavour."